


Bell Masayuki Shimada

Pioneering Fishery Research Biologist

1922 - 1958

A black and white portrait of Dr. Bell Masayuki Shimada, a young man with dark hair, wearing a suit and tie, looking slightly to the left. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds.

Few fish were as important to the development of West Coast commercial fisheries after World War II than the Pacific tunas. Dr. Bell Shimada and his colleagues at the Honolulu Laboratory of Pacific Oceanic Fisheries Investigations (POFI) were among the first to study the population dynamics of tunas and the oceanography affecting their abundance and distribution. Shimada joined POFI in 1948. In 1952, he joined the staff of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). Shimada and fellow IATTC scientist Townsend Cromwell were lost in a plane crash in 1958. Shimada Seamount in the eastern equatorial Pacific is named in his memory.

The NOAA seal, featuring a blue circle with a white wave and the text "NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION" and "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE".

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